

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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O P 170128Z JUL 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1060

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD PRIORITY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UN, XF, EG

SUBJ: SYG'S COMMENTS TO PRESS ON EXTENSION OF UNEF

1. SYG HAS MADE NUMBER OF COMMENTS TO PRESS ON EXTENSION OF UNEF MANDATE, BOTH IN LATE EVENING JULY 15 PRESS BRIEFING AND PRIVATELY TO INDIVIDUAL REPORTERS JULY 16. THRUST OF REMARKS IS THAT EGYPT EXPECTS SC TO ADOPT RESOLUTION CALLING FOR WITHDRAWAL FROM ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND WILL AGREE TO RENEW MANDATE IF THAT IS DONE. WALDHEIM ALSO MAINTAINED CONSENT OF PARTIES WAS ESSENTIAL TO CONTINUATION OF FORCE, AND SAID THERE CAN BE NO UNEF PRESENCE WITHOUT A SECURITY COUNCIL MANDATE.

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2. FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF SYG'S LATE JULY 15 PRESS BRIEFING
AS CIRCULATED BY SECRETARIAT JULY 16:

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I HAVE NO STATEMENT,
BUT I WAS INFORMED THAT YOU WERE WAITING HERE SO I THOUGHT
I SHOULD COME DOWN TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS.

QUESTION: WHAT IS THE SITUATION IF THE PERIOD OF
THE MANDATE OF UNEF RUNS OUT, AND ONE OF THE PARTIES HAS
REFUSED TO AGREE TO THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE?
DOES THIS OBLIGE YOU TO PULL THE FORCE OUT? SUPPOSE THAT
THIS PARTY HAS SUPPORT IN THE COUNCIL FOR ITS POSITION
AND THE COUNCIL TAKES NO ACTION TO EXTEND THE MANDATE.
DOES THAT OBLIGE YOU TO PULL THE FORCE OUT, ONCE THE MANDATE
RUNS OUT?

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL: FIRST OF ALL I WISH TO SAY THAT
YOU CANNOT COMPARE THE SITUATION NOW WITH THAT WHICH
WE HAD IN 1967. TODAY, AFTER HAVING RECEIVED THE LETTER
OF FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY, I IMMEDIATELY INFORMED THE
PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE EGYPTIAN POSITION,
AND AT THE SAME TIME I CIRCULATED TO THE MEMBERS OF THE
COUNCIL THE LETTER OF MR. FAHMY. THIS MEANS, OF COURSE,
THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAS TO TAKE UP THE MATTER AND
TO DECIDE ON THE PROCEDURE, I WISH TO REFER TO THE CONTENT
OF THE LETTER IN THIS REGARD, WHICH STATES WHY EGYPT DOES
NOT CONSENT TO FURTHER RENEW THE MANDATE OF UNEF. SHE IS
NOT AGAINST THE PROPER USE OF THE FORCE. IT IS THE OPINION
OF THE GOVERNMENT OF EGYPT THAT THE FORCE SHOULD NOT --
TO USE THE WORDS OF THE NOTE -- "BE USED AS A MEANS OF
PERPETUATING THE OCCUPATION OF EGYPTIAN TERRITORY". THIS
IS ONE OF THE MAIN ASPECTS OF THE NOTE WHICH I RECEIVED
TODAY. SO IT SEEMS THAT THE CONTINUED PRESENCE OF UNEF
WILL DEPEND ON THE FURTHER ACTION, OR SATISFACTORY ACTION,
TAKEN BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

QUESTION: WHAT DO YOU UNDERSTAND THAT SUCH SATISFACTORY
ACTION MIGHT BE?

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL: EGYPT EXPECTS THE COUNCIL TO ADOPT
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A RESOLUTION WHICH WILL HELP TO IMPLEMENT PREVIOUS DECISIONS
OF THE COUNCIL, WHICH REFERS OF COURSE AS WAS EXPLAINED BY
THE EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR TO ME TO THE QUESTION OF WITHDRAWAL.

QUESTION: DO YOU MEAN THAT THE AMBASSADOR WANTS A RESOLUTION
CALLING FOR ISRAEL TO WITHDRAW FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES?

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL: THIS IS MY UNDERSTANDING.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY-GENERAL, DR. KISSINGER MUST BE VERY MUCH INVOLVED IN THIS THING. DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW WHETHER HE HAS BEEN ALREADY INFORMED DIRECTLY OR THROUGH YOU?

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL: I HAVE INFORMED AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN OF THIS SITUATION.

QUESTION: DID AMBASSADOR MEGUID GIVE YOU ANY FURTHER INTERPRETATION OF THIS LETTER TO THE EXTENT THAT EGYPT WOULD NOT IMMEDIATELY WITHDRAW FROM UNEF?

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL: MY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT EVERYTHING WILL DEPEND ON HOW THE SECURITY COUNCIL HANDLES THIS MATTER. AS I SAID BEFORE, EGYPT STATED THAT SHE IS NOT AGAINST THE PROPER USE OF THE FORCE, AND ITS IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT PROPER USE OF THE FORCE SHOULD NOT MEAN THAT THE FORCE IS USED FOR CONTINUING OR PROTECTING THE STATUS QUO. IN OTHER WORDS, WHAT EGYPT REALLY WANTS IS TO GET OUT OF THE STALEMATE AND TO FIND A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION OF THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY-GENERAL, IS IT YOUR INTERPRETATION NOW THAT EGYPT WANTS A CHANGE OF THE MANDATE OF UNEF?

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL: THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE CHANGE OF THE MANDATE OF UNEF, BUT EGYPT FEELS -- AND HERE AGAIN I REFER NOT ONLY TO THE NOTE BUT ALSO TO THE EXPLANATION GIVEN TO ME BY THE AMBASSADOR -- THE NEED TO MAKE PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATING FIELD. EGYPT IS AFRAID THAT THE CONTINUED PRESENCE OF UNEF, WITHOUT ANY PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATING FIELD, COULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO A FINAL SOLUTION OF THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM.

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QUESTION: DO YOU ANTICIPATE, MR. SECRETARY-GENERAL, THAT IF THE COUNCIL ADOPTED A RESOLUTION UPON WITHDRAWAL IT WOULD THEN BE IN A POSITION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE MANDATE OF UNEF FOR ANOTHER PERIOD?

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL: THE CONSENT OF THE PARTIES IS ESSENTIAL. PEACEKEEPING FORCES ARE NOT ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS UNDER CHAPTER 7 OF THE CHARTER. THEY CAN ONLY BE MAINTAINED IF THE PARTIES CONCERNED AGREE. THEREFORE, IT IS IMPORTANT TO GET THE AGREEMENT OF EGYPT FOR THE PROLONGATION OF THE MANDATE. *Q_"U_Q*PT;7WQPO+D#RFDB5#H

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